



Celebrate Independence in America's National Parks - 2006



“We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness - ...”

Thomas Jefferson – from The Declaration of Independence

Independence, Freedom, Rights – what do those words mean to you? However you define them, they epitomize American Democracy, the Declaration of Independence, and the United States Constitution. As Americans we are proud of our revolutionary heritage, the patriots who fought for Independence, and the founding fathers who established this nation. We are proud of the many Americans, celebrated and not, who played an important part in defending our freedoms throughout our history. The events and people that established and helped maintain our Independence are valued by all Americans as links to our common heritage and our growth as a nation. Many of those events and people are today commemorated in areas managed by the National Park Service.

The National Park Service has the honor of preserving numerous areas that commemorate the birth of the United States and American Independence. The ideals and freedoms that were won during the American Revolution and guaranteed in the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence are celebrated throughout the National Park System. In some areas Independence is celebrated everyday and in others on special occasions. American Independence and freedom is celebrated in areas as diverse as Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Fort McHenry National Monument in Maryland, King's Mountain National Military Park in South Carolina, Appomattox Court House National Historical Park in Virginia, Mount Rushmore National Monument in South Dakota, USS Arizona Memorial in Hawaii and Brown v. Board of Education in Kansas. National Parks preserve and commemorate sites of historical significance in the on-going growth of this nation, including the homes of several Presidents and men and women noteworthy to the development of the nation.

With the many treasured areas that are in the National Park System, what better way is there to celebrate Independence Day this year than to visit a National Park.

Listed below is a sampling of National Park Service sites that can help visitors gain an understanding of American Independence and provide a link to our past, present, and future. For a more complete list of parks and additional information about them, visit our ***Celebrate Independence in America's National Parks*** website at: http://www.nps.gov/pub_aff/inde/celebrate.htm.

National Parks that Preserve and Commemorate Independence or Related Themes



Independence National Historical Park, PA: Independence Hall and the related historical buildings which make up the park witnessed the 18th century delegates to the Second Continental Congress argue over the next step in the dangerous game of rebellion and then issue the *Declaration of Independence*. Eleven years later, secret deliberations and hard compromises resulted in a new frame of government to hold the country together - the *Constitution of the United States*.

Boston National Historical Park, MA: Discover the revolutionary generation of Bostonians who blazed a trail from colonialism to independence. Boston National Historical Park is an association of sites that together give the visitor a coherent view of the city's role in the nation's history.

Colonial National Historical Park, VA: The park encompasses five units spanning over 9,000 acres and 174 years. The sites mark the first permanent English settlement at Jamestown and the last battle of the American Revolution at Yorktown -- literally the beginning and end of English colonial America. The 23-mile Colonial Parkway provides a link between the two sites. Join National Park Service rangers for interpretive tours and drive the historic tour roads. Experience the sense of place that formed the character of a nation in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Saratoga National Historical Park, NY: Site of the first significant American military victory during the Revolution, the Battles of Saratoga ranks among the most decisive battles in world history. Here in 1777, American forces met, defeated and forced a major British army to surrender, an event which led France to recognize the independence of the United States and enter the war as a decisive military ally of the struggling Americans.

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, VA: On Palm Sunday, April 9, 1865 General Robert E. Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia to Lt. General Ulysses S. Grant signaling the end of the Southern States' attempt to create a separate nation. The surrender at the small village of Appomattox Court House in Virginia set the stage for the emergence of an expanded and more powerful Federal government. In a large sense the

struggle between the Federalists and Anti-Federalists, in Philadelphia, over how much power the central government would hold over the states had finally been settled. The end of the war led directly to the adoption of the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments to the Constitution – ending slavery, providing citizenship and the right to vote (for males only, women would not get the right to vote until 1920).

Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, MO: The Gateway Arch, the Museum of Westward Expansion, and St. Louis' Old Courthouse, site of the Dred Scott Case, make up this park. During a nationwide competition in 1947-48, architect Eero Saarinen's inspired design for a 630- foot stainless steel arch was chosen as a perfect monument to the spirit of the western pioneers.

Women's Rights National Historical Site, NY: The Park consists of four major historical properties and a state of the art Visitor Center. Start at the Visitor Center where you can view an inspirational film and exhibits. Continue to the Wesleyan Chapel and imagine being a participant at the First Women's Rights Convention.



Washington Monument, District of Columbia: Of all the Presidents of the United States, George Washington is the most celebrated. Efforts to commemorate his legacy began during his lifetime and continue to this day. His leadership and service to the republic have been distinguished through the naming of the federal capital, universities, streets, counties, and a state. In addition to these honors, he has been remembered in works of art and monumental buildings. But none have captured the imagination of the people world-wide like the Washington Monument.

USS Arizona Memorial, HI: Today the USS Arizona is a national shrine that symbolizes American sacrifice and resolve. Through national tragedy, a “sleeping giant awoke” and the United States moved towards its destiny as a global power.

The National World War II Memorial, District of Columbia: Located on the National Mall in Washington, DC the memorial commemorates the sacrifice and celebrates the victory of the WWII generation. The National World War II Memorial creates a distinct, evocative and serene tribute yet remains respectful and sensitive to its historic surroundings. The memorial was recently dedicated on May 29th, 2004.

Lincoln Home National Historic Site, IL: The foundation of Abrahams Lincoln's political beliefs rested on the idea expressed in the Declaration of Independence that, "All men are created equal ...". In his time, the debate over slavery divided the country. Lincoln Home NHS gives visitors the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of Abraham Lincoln. A four block historic neighborhood surrounds the only home Mr. Lincoln ever owned. Lincoln's home is the centerpiece of the site. It has been restored to its 1860s appearance, revealing Lincoln as husband, father, politician, and President-elect.

Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site, NY: Contains "Springwood", the lifelong home of America's only four-term President. Roosevelt successfully led this nation through the greatest crises of the Twentieth Century, the Great Depression and World War II. Also on the site is the Presidential Library and Museum, operated by the National Archives. Visitors may enjoy a guided tour of FDR's home, take a self-guided tour of the Museum, or stroll the grounds, gardens, and trails of this 300-acre site.

Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site, KS: On October 26, 1992, Congress passed Public Law 102-525 establishing Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site to commemorate the landmark Supreme Court decision aimed at ending segregation in public schools. On May 17, 1954, the Supreme Court unanimously declared that separate educational facilities are inherently unequal" and, as such, violate the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which guarantees all citizens "equal protection of the laws."



Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt NHS



Lincoln Home NHS



Valley Forge NHP

Mount Rushmore National Memorial, SD: The four figures carved in stone on Mount Rushmore represent the first 150 years of American history. The birth of our nation was guided by the vision and courage of George Washington. Thomas Jefferson always had dreams of something bigger, first in the words of the Declaration of Independence and later in the expansion of our nation through the Louisiana Purchase. Preservation of the union was paramount to Abraham Lincoln and eventually a nation where all men were free and equal was destined to be. At the turn of the Twentieth Century, Theodore Roosevelt saw that in our nation was the possibility for greatness. Our nation was changing from a rural republic to a world power. The ideals of these presidents laid a foundation for our nation as solid as the rock from which their figures are carved.

The National Mall, District of Columbia: The National Mall's origins are as old as the capital city itself. The open space and parklands envisioned by Pierre L'Enfant's plan, which was commissioned by George Washington, created an ideal stage for national expressions of remembrance, observance and protest.

Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site, GA: Martin Luther King, Jr., National Historic Site includes a number of facilities that are operated in partnership with the National Park Service, Ebenezer Baptist Church and The King Center. Within these facilities the visitor can learn about Dr. King's life and his influence on the civil rights movement in America.

Morristown National Historical Park, NJ: Attracted by Morristown's strategic location, General George Washington twice chose Morristown as the site of the Continental Army's main winter encampment during the War for Independence. The park includes the site of the fortification from the 1777 encampment, and most of the ground occupied during the vast 1779-80 encampment, where over 10,000 troops endured the worst winter of the American Revolution. The Ford Mansion, here Washington made his headquarters, is an important feature of Morristown NHP and recalls civilian contributions to the winning of Independence.

Additional National Park Sites that Preserve or Commemorate Independence or Related Themes

(To visit any of these sites on the web, go to: <http://data2.itc.nps.gov/parksearch/atoz.cfm>)

Adams National Historical Park - Quincy, MA
Andrew Johnson National Historic Site - Greeneville, TN
Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial National Memorial - Arlington, VA
Boston African American National Historic Site - Boston, MA
Charles Pinkney National Historic Site - Sullivan's Island, SC
Cowpens National Battlefield - Chesnee, SC
Cumberland Gap National Historical Park - Middlesboro, KY
Eisenhower National Historic Site - Gettysburg, PA
Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site - Hyde Park, NY
Ellis Island National Monument - NJ, NY
Fort Davis National Historic Site - Fort Davis, TX
Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine - Baltimore, MD
Fort Moultrie National Monument - Sullivan's Island, SC
Fort Necessity National Battlefield - Farmington, PA
Fort Pulaski National Monument - Savannah, GA
Fort Stanwix National Monument - Rome, NY
Fort Sumter National Monument - Charleston Harbor, SC
Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial National Memorial - Washington, DC
Frederick Douglass National Historic Site - Washington, DC
General Grant National Memorial - New York, NY
George Rogers Clark National Historical Park - Vincennes, IN
George Washington Birthplace National Monument - Westmoreland County, VA
Gettysburg National Military Park - Gettysburg, PA
Guilford Courthouse National Military Park - Greensboro, NC
Hamilton Grange National Memorial - New York, NY
Harpers Ferry National Historical Park - Harpers Ferry, WV
Harry S Truman National Historic Site - Independence and Grandview, MO
Herbert Hoover National Historic Site - West Branch, IA
Homestead National Monument of America - Beatrice, NE
John F. Kennedy National Historic Site - Brookline, MA
Kings Mountain National Military Park - Blacksburg, SC
Lincoln Memorial National Memorial - Washington, DC
Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site - Little Rock, AR
Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park - Johnson City, TX
Manassas National Battlefield Park - Manassas, VA
Minute Man National Historical Park - Concord, Lincoln, Lexington, MA
Manzanar National Historic Site - Independence, CA
Moores Creek National Battlefield - Currie, NC
Morristown National Historical Park - Morristown, NJ
Nez Perce National Historical Park - four states, ID, MT, OR, WA
Ninety Six National Historic Site - Ninety Six, SC

Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail - parts of, NC,SC,TN,VA
President's Park (White House) - Washington, DC
Sagamore Hill National Historic Site - Oyster Bay, NY
Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail - Montgomery, Lowndes & Dallas Counties, AL
Shiloh National Military Park - Shiloh, TN
Statue of Liberty National Monument - New York, NY
Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial - Philadelphia, PA
Thomas Jefferson Memorial National Memorial - Washington, DC
Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site - Tuskegee Institute, AL
Ulysses S Grant National Historic Site - St. Louis, MO
Valley Forge National Historical Park - Valley Forge, PA
Vicksburg National Military Park - Vicksburg, MS
William Howard Taft National Historic Site - Cincinnati, OH

Additional National Park Service web sites about Independence or Related Themes

Revolutionary War

<http://www.nps.gov/revwar>
<http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/categrs/mili7.htm>
<http://www.cr.nps.gov/museum/exhibits/revwar/index.htm>
<http://www.nps.gov/vafo/mropening.htm>
http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/declaration/
http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/inde/shs.pdf

The Constitution and the Declaration of Independence

http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/dube/inde1.htm
<http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/categrs/govn2.htm>
http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/declaration
http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/butowsky2/index.htm

Presidents of the United States

http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/presidents/index.htm
<http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/categrs/govn6.htm>
<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nhl/themes/Scanned%20Nominations/Presidential-Sites.pdf>

The Civil Rights Movement

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/civilrights/>
<http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/categrs/etnc1.htm>
http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/nhl/school.htm

Women's Rights

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/feature/wom/>
<http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/categrs/women.htm>

American History Online Publications

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/categrs/index.htm>
<http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/books-title.htm>
http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/park_histories/index.htm



Independence Day Celebrations and Programs in the National Park Service - 2006

Many parks celebrate Independence with special events and programming. A list of special events and celebrations follows. We invite everyone to come celebrate Independence with us at a National Park Service site this year.

June 24, 2006:

Boston African American National Historic Site, MA

An Abolitionist Independence Day: *What Does Your Fourth of July Mean?* Saturday, June 24, 2006 at 2 p.m. - Experience an "Abolitionist Independence Day" as we hear Frederick Douglass and Henry David Thoreau tell us in their own words about American freedom and American slavery. Join us for the world premier of this new program created and presented by noted performers and historic interpreters Merrill Kohlhofer and Guy Peartree. At the Museum of Afro-American History Abiel Smith School Gallery,

46 Joy Street on Beacon Hill. This event is FREE. Registration is requested by Wednesday, June 21st. To make reservations or request further information, please call Boston African American National Historic Site at (617) 742-5415. Close to Park Street Station on Green and Red MBTA line.

June 30 – July 4, 2006

Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, MO

Naturalization Ceremony: Friday, June 30, 1:00 p.m. - Under the 33 star, 36 foot by 20 foot garrison flag hanging from the fifth floor level of the rotunda, in the Old Courthouse, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service will kickoff the holiday celebrations by swearing in 75 new citizens in a special Naturalization Ceremony.

Historic Fourth of July Celebration At the Old Courthouse - In honor of Independence Day, the Old Courthouse at Jefferson National Expansion Memorial presents a *Historic Fourth of July Celebration* from **Saturday, July 1 through Tuesday, July 4, 2006**. Against a backdrop of 19th Century patriotic decorations, visitors will "become a part of history" at the Old Courthouse, 11 North Fourth Street, in downtown, St. Louis.

Programs on Saturday, July 1 and Tuesday, July 4 will include full days of music and historic entertainment from 10 a.m.

until 5 p.m. Patriotic 19th Century music will be performed by the **Independent Silver Band** from Mt. Vernon, Illinois, a group of musicians organized in 2003 to recreate a traditional brass band. The Independent Silver Band will offer concerts at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. each day. The **Gum Springs Serenaders** from the Kansas City area will also provide music from the past using a variety of authentic musical instruments. They will perform at 1 p.m. on both July 1 and July 4.

In addition to the special music, history will come to life when former Missouri Judge and Senator **David Rice Atchison**, as portrayed by **David Dickerson**, will discuss the political situation in 1856, preceding the American Civil War. Mr. Dickerson, an actor and human resource director, will present *David Rice Atchison* at 12 p.m. on both July 1 and July 4.

Living History Freedom Tours will be offered at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., and 3 p.m. on July 1 and July 4. Staff and volunteers will be dressed in 19th century period clothing and demonstrate a portion of the long struggle to gain civil rights in America.

The site will be open on Sunday, July 2 and Monday, July 3. On these days a limited schedule of programming will offer **Historic Fourth of July** tours with park rangers at 12 p.m. and 3 p.m. All programs and events are free. The Old Courthouse will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on July 1 and July 4. The building is open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at other times.

Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, established in 1935, is comprised of the Gateway Arch, Museum of Westward Expansion, and the Old Courthouse. This National Park Service area commemorates St. Louis' role in the westward expansion of the United States during the 1800s and honors individuals such as Dred and Harriet Scott who sued for their freedom in the Old Courthouse.

The Gateway Arch is open daily 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. during the summer. All ranger-led and special museum programs are FREE of charge. Fees are charged for the tram ride to the top of the Gateway Arch and for the films shown in the Gateway Arch visitor center. For additional information, call 314/655-1700 weekdays, or 7-1-1 voice/TTY Telecommunications Relay Service. Visit us at www.nps.gov/jeff.

July 1, 2006:

Antietam National Battlefield, MD

Antietam Salute to Independence Celebration: July 1, 2006 - Join the Maryland Symphony Orchestra and Zambelli International Fireworks for a special Independence Day commemoration. The two hour concert begins at 7:30 p.m.; fireworks display immediately following the concert. Note: Due to this special event, the Visitor Center will be open from 8:30 am until 3:00 p.m. Several of the park roads will not be available to tour after 3:00 p.m. For more information contact the park at (301) 432-5124.

Friendship Hill National Historic Site, PA

Independence Day Picnic and Quilt Show: July 1, 2006 - This event sponsored by the Friendship Hill Association. For more information, contact the park at (724) 725-9190.

July 1-2, 2006:

Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine, MD

"The Glorious Fourth! An Old-Fashioned Fourth of July Weekend!": Saturday, July 1 & Sunday, July 2, 12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. - July 4th was the most important holiday in early America. Many regarded the War of 1812 as "America's Second War of Independence." Join the garrison of Fort McHenry and patriotic citizens of Baltimore for the following

activities: fife and drum music, cannon firing, a musket salute for 18 states, period dancing and games. Highlight of the event will be the public reading of the Declaration of Independence at 3:00.

Twilight Tattoo Ceremony and Concert: U.S. Army, Saturday, July 1, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - What better way to celebrate the Fourth of July weekend than with a tattoo with the U.S. Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps and Continental Color Guard? Dressed in the uniforms of the Revolutionary War, the Old Guard's stirring fife and drum music embodies the spirit of '76 and George Washington's Continental Army. The U.S. Army drill team will perform as part of the tattoo. Intricate maneuvers, split-second timing and the famous "nine-man rifle toss" make this evening ceremony especially memorable.

For more information about these events, contact the park at (410) 962-4290, x224.

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, WV

America's Picnic: Celebrating The Glorious Fourth: July 1-2 – A special living history program on how the 4th was celebrated in America. Experience the patriotic passion of a traditional hometown band concert with the Wildcat Regiment Band, the Regimental Band of the 105th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. For more information, contact the park at 304-535-6029.

Kings Mountain National Military Park, SC

Ferguson Rifle Presentation: July 1, 2006 - July 2, 2006 - Visit the park to celebrate American Independence and learn about the unique Ferguson Rifle. Presentation Saturday at 2 p.m. Camps open Saturday 9-6, Sunday 9-3. Historians Ricky Roberts and Bryan Brown will share their expertise on the Ferguson Rifle and demonstrate how it was fired. Militia will also be camped at the park this weekend. For more information contact the park at (864) 936-7921.

Stones River National Battlefield, TN

Living History Encampment at Fortress Rosecrans: July 1, 2006 - July 2, 2006, Saturday: 10 AM - 4 PM / Sunday: 10 AM - 2 PM - Visitors will get the chance to hear the stories of occupied Murfreesboro as they walk through Fortress Rosecrans and listen to soldiers and civilians. Programs will include artillery and infantry demonstrations. Programs will run from 10 AM to 4 PM on Saturday and 10 AM to 2 PM on Sunday. Detailed schedules will be available at the visitor center and at Fortress Rosecrans. Jim Lewis, (615) 893-9501.

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve, KS

Independence Day at the Ranch – On Saturday, July 1, ride in a covered wagon and watch historic cooking demonstrations. On Sunday July 2, visit with living history interpreters going about their daily ranching activities as they prepare for the holiday celebration. Historic children's games at 2 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. Refreshments served.

July 1 & 4, 2006:

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial, OH

Independence Day Celebrations: Visitor's to Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial on beautiful South Bass Island will find the following special programs offered for the Fourth of July celebration:

Fireland Symphony, July 1 at 7 pm - On the steps of the Monument, the Put-in-Bay Arts Council is sponsoring a free performance of the Fireland Symphony from Sandusky, Ohio. The program will feature a variety of popular and patriotic arrangements.

Naturalization Ceremony, July 4 at 11 am - A Naturalization Ceremony will take place on the Monument steps for 25 new citizens. A luncheon sponsored by the Perry Friends Group will follow for the families and friends.

Fireworks, July 4 at sunset - The best viewing of the Put-in-Bay Chamber of Commerce's fireworks will be seen from the Monument grounds. A program of recorded patriotic music will accompany the sky show.

Throughout the 4th of July weekend staff reenactors will offer musket firing demonstrations and other interpretive talks. For more information, contact the park at (419) 285-2184.

July 1-3, 2006:

Fort Scott National Historic Site, KS

Independence Week Programs

Frontier Garrison Life: July 01, 2006 - Experience 1840s military life as reenactors bring Fort Scott to life.

Highlights in History: July 02, 2006 - Join the rangers and volunteers of Fort Scott National Historic Site for fascinating programs on the history of Fort Scott.

Frontier Garrison Life: September 02, 2006 - Experience 1840s military life as reenactors bring Fort Scott to life.

Highlights in History: September 03, 2006 - September 4, 2006 - Join the rangers and volunteers of Fort Scott National Historic Site for fascinating programs on the history of Fort Scott. For more information, contact the park at 620-223-0310.

Gettysburg National Military Park, PA

143rd Gettysburg Battle Anniversary, July 1, 2, & 3, 2006 - To commemorate the anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863, national park rangers and historians are offering special guided walks on the fields of battle at Gettysburg National Military Park. The walks follow the action of three days of fighting and highlight the battle's effect on the armies and civilians. For the first time, the park is offering a special walk for children aged 6 -14 and their families - walking in the footsteps of soldiers from the 6th Wisconsin Infantry and learning lessons of leadership, teamwork, and courage.

July 1, at 10 a.m. - *"I Have Never Seen the Like", the battle in Herbst Woods.*

July 1, at 3 p.m. - *Cemetery Hill July 1: Reynolds' Fire Evacuation Plan For The Army Of The Potomac.*

July 1, at 3 p.m. - *Remembering the 6th Wisconsin Infantry at the Railroad Cut: A Family Program .*

July 2, at 10 a.m. - *Cemetery Hill: "The Commanding Point of the Whole Position".*

July 2, at 3 p.m. - *"Night closed the bloody drama." Henry Benning's Georgia Brigade and Devil's Den.*

July 2, at 6 p.m. - *"The Air All Around Me Turned to Hissing Lead." George T. "Tige" Anderson's Brigade attacks The Wheatfield.*

July 3, at 10 a.m. - *"Each man felt...that he was summoned to a ride to death." Farnsworth's Charge, July 3, 1863.*

July 3, at 10 a.m. - *Exit Strategy: Monterey Pass & Lee's Retreat.*

July 3, at 3 p.m. - *Henry Hunt and the Union Artillery in the Defense of Cemetery Ridge.*

July 3, at 3 p.m. - *The Attack and Repulse of Longstreet's Assault "Pickett's Charge".*

July 3, at 6 p.m. - *"Spangler's Spring".*

For more information call 717/ 334-1124 or go to the website: www.nps.gov/gett

July 3 & 4, 2006:

Mount Rushmore National Monument, SD

Independence Day Celebration: July 3, 2006 - July 4, 2006 - The Mount Rushmore Independence Day celebration will be held on the 3rd and 4th of July. The Heartland Band from the United States Airforce will spearhead the entertainment activities along with military flyovers, presidential reenactors and a fireworks display on July 3rd beginning at 9:15 p.m. Due to heavy traffic, limited parking and security checks, plan to carpool and arrive early. Continuous entertainment begins at noon July 3. Call (605) 574-2523 or visit www.nps.gov/moru for updates.

July 1-4, 2006:

Boston National Historical Park, MA

Independence Day Special Programs and Activities:

Remember the Ladies: July 01, 2006 - Do you think the American Revolution was only started by a bunch of guys?

Think again. This tour will detail the role of prominent (and not so prominent) Boston women in making a case for liberty on the eve of the Revolution. 90 minute walking tour begins at 11 am at Boston National Historical Park Visitor Center, 15 State Street (617) 242-5642

Trader or Traitor: July 01, 2006 - 18th Century Boston was a bustling town of trade and commerce in which women paid a significant role. This tour spotlights Elizabeth Murray; merchant, entrepreneur and philanthropist who found her loyalties torn at the beginnings of the American Revolution. 90 minute walking tour begins at 2pm from Boston National Historical Park Visitor Center 15 State Street (617) 242-5642.

Trader or Traitor: July 02, 2006 – See Above Information.

Death in the Streets: The Bloody Massacre: July 03, 2006 - A guided walking tour of sites which played an important role in fomenting revolution! 90 minute walking tour begins at 2pm from Boston National Historical Park Visitor Center, 15 State Street (617) 242-5642.

Battle for Bunker Hill: July 04, 2006 - A guided walking tour of the route the Red Coats took to attack the patriots at Breed's Hill. Forty five minute tour departs at 2 pm from Charlestown Navy Yard Visitor Center (617) 242-5601

USS Constitution Turnaround Cruise: July 4, 2006 - View the oldest commissioned warship afloat in the world embark on its annual Independence Day Turnaround and fire a twenty-one gun salute to the nation. 11am-1pm_

www.oldironsides.com

Independence National Historical Park, PA

Special Events and Programs:

A Taste of Philly, July 1, 2 - Philadelphia's finest restaurants and best chefs offer samples of their favorite dishes from booths set up for Philadelphia's largest food festival ever.

Peter Nero and the Philly POPS, July 3, 8:30 pm – 10 pm: Peter Nero and the Philly POPS perform their annual celebration of America's birthday on a stage in front of Independence Hall featuring stirring anthems, rousing marches and holiday favorites.

Tribute to Freedom Ceremony, July 4, 11 am – Noon: The City of Philadelphia celebrates Independence Day with a tribute to freedom ceremony from a stage in front of Independence Hall.

Children's Parade, July 4, 12:30 p.m. - Let Freedom Ring Children's Parade
Departs from National Constitution Center.

Let Freedom Ring Bell-Tapping, July 4, 2 p.m. - Let Freedom Ring Bell-tapping at Liberty Bell Center, 6th & Chestnut Street. Let Freedom Ring is a nationwide celebration honoring those who helped achieve our country's independence during the American Revolution. The celebration includes a wide variety of entertainment, including a Children's Parade, inspirational speeches and a ceremonial tapping of the Liberty Bell. For more information go to www.let-freedom-ring.org.

Reading of the Declaration of Independence, July 8, Noon - Reenactment of the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence on Independence Square.

For more information about these events, contact the park at (215) 597-9205.

July 4, 2006:

Adams National Historical Park, MA

Continental Congress, July 4, 2006, 12 noon and 3:00 pm — Reenact the Second Continental Congress and the signing of the Declaration of Independence. You will assume the role of a delegate and debate various issues leading up to the vote for Independence. This is a family friendly event and a great way to learn about why we celebrate the Fourth of July! Meet at the Adams Carriage House, Melissa Burnham, and (617) 770-1175. The Carriage House is located on the grounds of the

Old House at 135 Adams Street.

Jefferson and Adams, A Stage Play, July 4, 2006, 7:00 pm - A moving and powerful dramatization of the remarkable friendship between two presidents of the United States- with the forthright Mrs. Adams always playing a major role. In a fast-paced series of encounters, we see the turbulent relationship between Thomas Jefferson (Colonial Williamsburg interpreter Bill Barker) and John Adams (veteran actor Sam Goodyear) as their friendship ignites, flourishes, ruptures, and resolves itself. The perceptive Abigail Adams (Colonial Williamsburg interpreter Abigail Schumann) acts as a catalyst and motivator while steadfastly maintaining her own beliefs. The play spans 50 years of their friendship, beginning in the early days of the republic, extending through two wars with England, and continuing through their vigorous retirement. They continually clashed over foreign entanglements, domestic politics, and the proper role of the federal government. This event is free and open to the public. It will take place on the grounds of the Beale Estate under a tent. Beale Estate, 181 Adams Street. Melissa Burnham, (617) 770-1175.

Arkansas Post National Memorial, AR

4th of July Cannon Demonstration, July 4, 2006 - Celebrate the fourth with a bang! An opportunity to experience a part of colonial history. Two 30 minute demonstrations will introduce visitors to the type of cannon used in our nation's struggle for independence. 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.

Colonial National Historical Park, VA

Independence Day Celebration (Yorktown Battlefield) - The battlefield where America's independence was won is the scene of Yorktown's family oriented Independence Day celebration. A foot race, parade, arts and crafts, musical entertainment and fireworks are highlights of this patriotic festival, sponsored by the Yorktown Fourth of July Celebration Committee and the National Park Service. For more information, contact the park at (757) 889-2409.

Devils Tower National Monument, WY

Fourth of July Centennial Celebration: July 04, 2006 - On July 4, 1983 two local ranchers were the first to climb Devils Tower. Today, climbing continues to be a popular activity. This special event includes programs on climbing history, a beginners' climbing area for people who want to give climbing a try, and the formation of a human American Flag near prairie dog town. The day will conclude with a large fireworks display at the Devils Tower KOA Campground. For more information, contact the park at (307) 467-5283.

Fort Laramie National Historic Site, WY

Annual Old Fashioned Fourth of July Celebration: July 04, 2006 - A Fort Laramie tradition. Join in a full day of games, music and activities, celebrating Independence Day. Old-fashioned kid's games begin at 10:00 a.m.. Noon artillery salute. Picnic Concert at 1:00 p.m. and many more activities. Contact the park for more details at (307) 837-2221.

Fort Larned National Historic Site, KS

Independence Day at Fort Larned: Park rangers and volunteers portray infantry and Cavalry soldiers, doctor, blacksmith and other skilled craftsmen, women of the frontier posts and Plains Indians to take visitors back in time to the turbulent history of the Indian Wars on the young nations vast central plains. Cannon and other weapon firing demonstrations are performed and the park operates on extended hours of 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. A period military band made up of employees and volunteers playing Indian Wars era military music performs at the Fort and is featured entertainment later in the evening at the Larned City Park for the community fireworks display. For further information or for related digital images contact us at 620.285.6911.

Fort Smith National Historic Site, AR

4th of July Fireworks: The Mayor's 4th of July Fireworks celebration festivities are held in the city park immediately adjacent to the Fort Smith National Historic Site. The historic site will stay open late and thousand of visitors enjoy

viewing the fireworks from the park grounds. For more information contact the park at (479) 783-3961.

George Washington Birthplace National Monument, VA

Children's Day: July 4, 2006 - Popes Creek Plantation will be filled with 18th century activities such as open hearth cooking, spinning, and blacksmithing. Games and other special activities for children will be featured. Free Admission. For more information, contact the park at (804) 224-1732.

Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, AK

4th of July Festivities: Klondike Gold Rush NHP will once again participate in the annual 4th of July festivities. The park will have a float in the parade. For more information contact the park at (907) 983-9243.

Morristown National Historical Park, NJ

Warm-Up for the Declaration, Tuesday, July 4 - Stories, riddles, jokes and an inspection of the troops are just part of the warm-up activities prior to our reading of the Declaration of Independence. Join in the fun as a costumed park ranger entertains the crowd and gives a "kids level" explanation of the Declaration. 12 noon at the Ford Mansion Grounds.

Public Reading of the Declaration of Independence, Tuesday, July 4 - Celebrate the Fourth of July the way our ancestors did, with a public reading of the Declaration of Independence. Cheer along with costumed park rangers as they denounce tyranny and praise liberty! 1 p.m. at the Ford Mansion Grounds.

National Mall

America's 2006 Independence Day Parade - Constitution Ave. between 7th to 17th Streets, NW. The parade on July 4 at 11:45 a.m. celebrates the 230th birthday of the United States of America. More than 3000 performers, dancers, cultural organizations, giant balloons, floats, and military personnel from thirteen States will march down Constitution Avenue from 7th to 17th streets. The parade is estimated to last approximately 2 hours. The parade is free and open to the public. Contact: 202-619-7222.

Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, NY

Independence Day at Sagamore Hill- A Red, White and Blue Fourth of July: Independence Day was an important holiday for Theodore Roosevelt who often spoke at the festivities in Oyster Bay and then gathered his extended family and friends at Sagamore Hill for a day of celebration. The National Park Service and the Friends of Sagamore Hill invite you to bring your family and friends to join the afternoon outdoor festivities at Sagamore Hill on **Tuesday, July 4th**, all of which are free and open to the public.

Equestrian Demonstration by the "Rough Rider Re-enactors" - The celebration will start with an equestrian demonstration by the "Rough Rider Re-enactors" in the meadow below the parking lot. The "Rough Rider" Cavalry Troop of the Nassau-Suffolk Horsemen's Association will offer demonstrations of riding techniques used by mounted soldiers of the Spanish American War at an authentic cavalry training camp. A period encampment will be set up as well.

Sagamore Hill Band - A formal program will take place at 2:00 PM with the Sagamore Hill Band, under the direction of Bandmaster Steve Walker, and will feature music of the time of TR; speeches by local dignitaries; and an appearance by Theodore Roosevelt himself as portrayed by re-enactor, James Foote. The Band will present works by Sousa, period campaign songs and popular selections of that day. The program will include Don Luckenbill's "Sagamore Hill March," written in 1953 for the opening of Sagamore Hill.

Seating for the audience is on the lawn, so bring a blanket or a lawn chair if you want seating other than turf and grass. The site is open from 9am to 5pm, and morning is the best time for a tour of the home that TR built. The house is open by guided tour only, held on the hour at a cost of \$5 per person and available on a first-come, first-served basis until 4pm. Those wishing to enter the house must have a ticket and an assigned a tour time. For further information call Sagamore Hill NHS at (516) 922-4788 or visit our website at www.nps.gov/sahi.

Salem Maritime National Historic Site, MA

Fireworks and Concert: Festivities will begin at 4 p.m. at Derby Wharf with the opening of Kid's Space where DeeJay Doug" will keep youngsters entertained with dancing, games, contests and prizes. Children can get their faces painted and do arts and crafts free. Food vending tents will open at 4 p.m. with hot dogs, French fries, ice cream and fried dough. Jim Kilroy's Jambalaya Jazz Band will begin performing at 5 p.m. in front of the main stage. Opening ceremonies will begin at 7:15 p.m. and will be followed by a two-hour Pops-style concert by the 40 piece Hillyer Festival Orchestra. The fireworks display will start at 9:15 p.m. accompanied by patriotic music played by the orchestra. For more information about the celebration, Contact the park at (978) 740-1689.

Saratoga National Historical Park, NY

Independence Day at Saratoga Battlefield

Citizenship Ceremony: 10:00 a.m., Routes 32 and 4, Stillwater - Independence Day on Tuesday, July 4 will be celebrated at Saratoga NHP with a Citizenship Ceremony followed by a 1776 town crier heralding news of American Independence.

Join fellow citizens in toasting the 13 "new" states. On the anniversary of our nation and upon grounds where freedom was won, foreigners will gather to become new citizens of America. Fife and drums, color guard, and musket firings frame this special event organized by Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution, Friends of Saratoga Battlefield and Immigration and Naturalization Services.

Reading of the Declaration of Independence - 1 & 3:00 PM - As a messenger from 1776, park ranger Joe Craig reads the Declaration of Independence with authentic 18th century toasts reflecting the insightful wit of the document signers. Free lemonade for all to share in the toasts, followed by celebratory musket firings. For more information about this or other events, please call the Visitor Center at 518-664-9821 ext. 224 or check our Web site at "www.nps.gov/sara".

St. Paul's Church National Historic Site, NY

Independence Day Celebration: July 4, 2006, 10:30 a.m. - A traditional July 4th celebration featuring music, speeches, refreshments, a reading of the Declaration of Independence and tolling of the historic St. Paul's Church bell - 13 times. For more information contact (914) 667-4116.

Thomas Stone National Historic Site, MD

Declare Your Independence: July 4, 2006, 10am -11am - Celebrate and commemorate our nation's birth on July 4th at the home of Thomas Stone, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. The National Park Service will host a series of events on the morning of Monday, July 4th to celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence at Thomas Stone National Historic Site in La Plata, Md.

- 10:00 a.m. (for one hour) A commemorative wreath laying is scheduled for the Stone family cemetery to honor Thomas Stone, signer of the Declaration of Independence. This event is in partnership with the Thomas Stone Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Port Tobacco Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the General Smallwood Chapter of the Children of the American Revolution.
- Directly following the ceremony (approximately 1130 a.m.) There will be a living history program during which Thomas Stone will read the Declaration of Independence and reflect upon the summer of 1776 when he and 55 other courageous men determined the course that America would follow by declaring our independence from England. The program will last approximately 30 minutes.

Thomas Stone National Historic Site will be open for this event from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Tours of the historic house

will be offered on the hour and half-hour starting at 12:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

William Howard Taft National Historic Site, OH

Juneteenth Independence Day (Legacy of a People) – The park will present an education program with Bi – Okoto (“Bee-O_Ko_Toe”) celebrating Juneteenth. The event will be held on Tuesday, July 4, in commemoration of our ancestors and their descendants, from 1:00 – 4:00 pm.

Bi-Okoto and a repertoire of over ninety authentic traditional dances, songs, music, dance dramas, operas and new contemporary works from Nigeria, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Senegal, Kenya and South Africa. They have performed in the United Kingdom, Norway, The Netherlands, Belgium and Germany. They will weave stories through the significance of Independence, and the transplantation of a dream and what Freedom means to you? The program will be performed in the English language; Yoruba from Nigeria; and Ewe from Ghana. The story of a people takes many forms and journeys with their hopes, struggle, defeats and victories will be featured at William Howard Taft National Historic Site.

The site is open from 8 am to 4 pm and is located at 2038 Auburn Avenue across from the Christ Hospital. Driving directions as well as other useful information about your visit can be found at www.nps.gov/wiho, or by calling 513-684-3262.

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